

aa<sub>4</sub> and aa<sub>5</sub> are selected from the group consisting of lysine, arginine, and histidine; and

one of aa<sub>6</sub> and aa<sub>7</sub> is selected from the group consisting of phenylalanine, tryptophan and tyrosine, such that when aa<sub>6</sub> is phenylalanine aa<sub>7</sub> is selected from the group consisting of lysine, arginine and histidine, when aa<sub>6</sub> is tryptophan aa<sub>7</sub> is lysine, and when aa<sub>7</sub> is phenylalanine aa<sub>6</sub> is leucine; and derivatives thereof that retain antimicrobial activity.

68. (New) The antimicrobial peptide according to claim 67, wherein aa<sub>4</sub> and aa<sub>5</sub> are selected from the group consisting of lysine and arginine.

69. (New) The antimicrobial peptide according to claim 67 comprising the amino acid sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO:3.

70. (New) The antimicrobial peptide according to claim 67 comprising the amino acid sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO:4.

71. (New) The antimicrobial peptide according to claim 67 comprising the amino acid sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO:5.

72. (New) The antimicrobial peptide according to claim 67 comprising the amino acid sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO:6.

73. (New) The antimicrobial peptide according to claim 67 comprising the amino acid sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO:7.

74. (New) The antimicrobial peptide according to claim 67 comprising the amino acid sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO:8.

75. (New) The antimicrobial peptide according to claim 67 comprising the amino acid sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO:9.